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2009

## 2009 Accomplishment Report

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### Agriculture Profitability & Sustainability



### Youth & Family



### Community Viability



### Food Safety, Health & Wellness



### Natural Resources Management & Environmental Quality



## 2002 Accomplishment Report

### Who We Are

The University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension specializes in developing and delivering educational programs that impact individuals; their families; their farms, ranches and businesses; and their communities. The complexities of contemporary living and working are reflected in a constantly evolving extension program that focuses on priority areas of agricultural profitability and sustainability; children, youth and families; community and leadership development; food safety, health and wellness; and natural resources and environment.

The Southeast Research and Extension District is part of the Cooperative Extension Division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR). The District expanded in 2003 from 21 to 28 counties. This report reflects the accomplishments in 2002 and gives a brief profile of the new, expanded District.

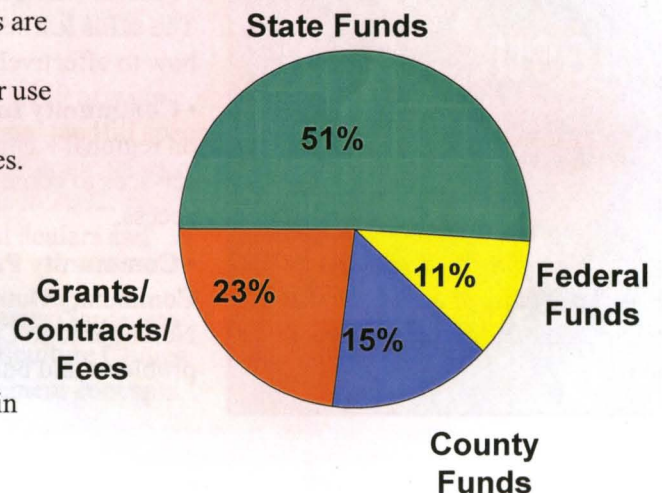
### What We Do

Extension helps Nebraskans put knowledge to work. It provides a variety of educational opportunities, delivered in a variety of ways, so giving participants knowledge they can use to make sound decisions to better their lives. Extension educators and specialists teach, facilitate and collaborate in providing research-based information to urban and rural Nebraska residents. A Nebraska mainstay since 1915, extension carries forward the land-grant university mission of taking the resources of the university to the people in the state. As a trusted source of factual information today, extension is vital as ever, and perhaps even more so, because of the diverse and complex issues people encounter.

### Partnerships

Extension's work is carried out in accordance with state, federal and county laws and agreements. Funding for Cooperative Extension is from state funds, grants/contract fees, county funds and federal funds. The federal funds are appropriated as specified by federal law. In addition, extension receives federal funds as a result of competitive grants. State general funds are appropriated by the Nebraska Legislature as part of NU's budget. Local tax funds are appropriated by the county commissioner/supervisors for use by local extension boards, according to Nebraska statutes. Grants/contract/fees come from business, industry and other agencies. Volunteers also contribute considerable time and talents - \$39 million of in-kind program support to Extensions' work in Nebraska.

### Partnership Funding







## Issue Team

### Agriculture Team

*(Focuses on acreages, small farms, large farms, the changing agriculture structure, and agribusiness)*

Programs include: Crop production, Beef Basics, soils, Environmental Quality Incentives Project (EQIP), precision farming, computerized financial record keeping, swine nutrition, cyst nematode, irrigation, youth ag awareness and acreage living.

## Focus Area

### Agriculture Profitability & Sustainability

- **On-farm Research:** 80 trials were conducted by 9 Extension Educators and 6 Specialists. **Impact:** Participants adopted new technology quicker. One group surveyed, valued participation at \$310,720. A producer stated, "I trust the data. This is unbiased data collected from some very good producers." The team has developed an educational web site for on-farm trials.
- **GIS/Technology:** The Nebraska Agricultural Technologies Association Conference and Trade Show attracted 175 farmers. **Impact:** Participants valued the practice change between \$3.65 and \$6.85/acre, projecting the potential program impact in the millions. The Precision Ag web site has 1,237 unique users.
- **Utilizing Drought Damaged Crops:** 550 producers gained information on nitrate in forages and economics of drought damaged crops. **Impact:** 98% of the producers indicated the meeting provided needed nutrition information and projected a value at \$19,000/farm.
- **Agribusiness Professional/Producer Education:** 1,502 attended Integrated Crop Management Winter Programs, Crop Management and Diagnostic Clinics, Soybean Field Days and Solutions Days. **Impact:** 6.8 million acres valued with savings from \$3.71/acre to \$7.72/acre; 92% of those attending planned changes.
- **Alternative Crops/Acreage/Tourism:** Over 900 clientele attended acreage and alternative enterprise training via video conference, tours, video tapes and conferences. 979,018 visits were made to environmental, horticultural and pest web sites. **Impact:** 87% of users from one website will use best management practices.
- **Livestock and Environmental Education:** Comprehensive Nutrient Management Planning and Manure Management Field Days reached 153 producers. **Impact:** Beef Feedlot Environmental Education was valued at \$55,000/operation. The team worked with feedlots and EPA on understanding and implementing new regulations.



## Issue Team

### Community Vision Team

*(Focuses on diversity and urban/rural issues)*

Programs include: Master Navigator, E-commerce, leadership and community technology committee.

## Focus Area

### Community Viability

- **Master Navigator:** 45 librarians completed Web Navigator training. **Impact:** The skills learned enabled them to teach students and community members how to effectively use the World Wide Web.
- **Community Information Technology Plans:** 11 communities are working on regional technology and assessment plans. **Impact:** Broadband internet services to communities in Saline County improve business and government access.
- **Community Partnerships:** The team facilitated the neighborhood part of the Community Outreach Partnership Center COPC with UNL and Lincoln Neighborhood Centers. **Impact:** Neighborhoods received help toward solving problems and building relationships with the University.



## Focus Area

### Food Safety, Health & Wellness

- **Nutrition Education:** 3,330 limited resource individuals learned the importance of healthy eating. 2,300 elementary students benefited from nutrition education information in schools. **Impact:** 72% of participants showed positive changes in nutrition practices.
- **Food Safety:** 689 participated in food safety/food handlers training. 7,305 youth learned proper hand washing. The Food Safety website had 300,000 hits with 19,378 professionals downloading educational materials. **Impact:** An increase knowledge of food safety and safe handling practices reduce the risk of food-borne illness.
- **Health and Wellness:** 8,764 individuals participated in nutrition and health related workshops. 7,800 individuals in 66 countries subscribe to the web based newsletter Food Reflections. 1,105 4-H youth and leaders participated in Pork and Beef Quality Assurance programs.



## Issue Team

**Healthy Lifestyles Team**  
*(Focuses on food safety, nutrition, health care, time management and aging population)*

Programs include: Food safety, diabetes management, general nutrition, teen nutrition, sports nutrition, osteoporosis prevention and Serv Safe.

## Focus Area

### Natural Resources Management & Environmental Quality

- **Urban Lead Contamination:** Work with the city of Omaha on Lead education began this year targeted in three areas: children's diet, home care and landscape management. Curriculum and teaching tools were developed and grant funds requested. A series of educational programs for homeowners began in January 2003.
- **On-site Wastewater Treatment:** Certification and training was held for 351 professionals and educators on wastewater treatment issues; evaluation of soils, and designing and installing systems. **Impact:** Participants showed a significant change in knowledge and interest in making practice changes.
- **Commercial and Private Training:** 892 commercial and 4,257 private pesticide applicators were trained. 200 homeowners and real estate professionals attended termite workshops. 1,324,764 contacts were made to the Pesticide Education website including; cockroach, termite and Intergraded Pest Management information. **Impact:** Individuals reported they would always calibrate equipment and calculate application use and 69% would use protective equipment.
- **Biosolids and Waste:** 35 tons of biosolids were delivered to 1,169 acres in Lancaster County in 10 years saving \$4 million in tipping fees and landfill space. Fremont added a similar program saving \$125,000 in fees. 3,450 cubic yards of grass and 950 cubic yards of leaves were diverted from landfills in 2002. 58,576 pounds of waste pesticide was collected from farmers, chemical dealers and home owners.
- **Professional and Volunteer Horticulture Training:** 196 Master Gardeners made direct contacts with 33,013 individuals. Commercial Horticulture Clinics focused on sustainable landscapes and Intergraded Pest Management concepts.



## Issue Team

**Environmental Sustainability Team**  
*(Focuses on water quality, waste management, air quality, horticulture, and pest and wildlife management)*

Programs include: Radon, asbestos, mold, lead, indoor air quality, termite, head lice, cockroach, Indian meal moth in food banks, youth water festivals, drinking water, wastewater treatment, hazardous waste, urban horticulture, urban lakes and wetlands.



## Issue Teams

### Family Life Team

*(Focuses on family strengths, parenting, child care, aging and financial management)*

Programs include: Early childhood education, Farm Alarm, family communication, child care and professional training.

### Youth Team

*(Focuses on all aspects of traditional and nontraditional, formal and nonformal youth development)*

Programs include: Character education, real colors, citizenship, mentoring, Washington Focus and Science based school programs.

• **Financial Management:** 389 high school students learned to use credit cards wisely. **Impact:** Students showed a significant change in their knowledge of protecting personal information and the risk of having multiple credit cards.

• **Family Communication:** 3,711 families learned communication skills through Juvenile Diversion, Divorce Parenting, Family Nights and workshops. **Impact:** Recidivism rates in three years show 66% of the juveniles in Diversion programs remained out of the court system. 93% of participants at Family Nights will try to implement a new skill.

• **Comprehensive Plans:** 8 counties completed comprehensive plans under LB640 Juvenile Service. **Impact:** Potential funding to these counties is \$104,275 in grants for at-risk family programming.

• **Character Education:** 7,336 youth gained leadership and ethical decision making skills. 126 area educators improved their skills in teaching character education reaching an additional 7,100 youth in schools.

• **Civic Engagement:** 1,863 youth performed 8,028 community service hours. Over 150 Lincoln and Omaha youth/adults participated in the Learn and Serve Conference to enhance community service participation.



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### 4-H Program

The Southeast District reaches approximately 72,417 youth through the 4-H Program. Over 35,000 youth are being reached, within the 28 counties of this District, through a variety of school enrichment programs and special interest programs offered in 4-H. The Southeast District 4-H Programs are supported at the grassroots level by over 8,000 teen and adult volunteers; at the county level by County 4-H Council and County Extension Staff; and at the district level by staff and clientele serving on a variety of committees supported by the work of an Extension 4-H Youth Development Specialist.

## 2003 Southeast Research & Extension District Clientele Demographics and Economic Profile

- 119,7460 (70%) of Nebraska's total population (2000 census)
- 73% of all minority individuals in Nebraska
- Roughly 60% of Nebraska's population living in poverty
- Relatively high median household incomes in metropolitan counties
- Approximately 37% of all Nebraska farms
- 19% of Nebraska farm land
- Annual agriculture market value of over \$2 billion

